

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USNATO 05287 242010Z
ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1893
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS: NATO, NL, PINR
SUBJECT: ECONADS: TURNOVER IN DUTCH NATO MISSION

1. JONKHEER (SQUIRE) MAXIMILLIAN EDWARD CORNELIS GEVERS, DEPARTED NATO MAY 21 FOR HIS NEW ASSIGNMENT TO THE DUTCH EMBASSY IN KUWAIT, WHERE, WE UNDERSTAND, HE AS NUMBER TWO WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ECONOMIC/ COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS. A THIRD SECRETARY HERE, GEVERS DID NOT INDICATE WHETHER THE SHIFT INVOLVES A PROMOTION. KUWAIT WILL BE THE THIRD FOREIGN ASSIGNMENT FOR GEVERS, MEMBER OF ONE OF THE DUTCH FOREIGN SERVICE'S ARISTOCRATIC FAMILIES (HIS FATHER, A BARON, RETIRED AS DUTCH AMBASSADOR TO LONDON IN THE MID '70S AFTER HAVING SERVED IN THE LATE '60S AS CHIEF OF PROTOCOL IN THE HAGUE.)
2. LAST SUMMER GEVERS MARRIED A MOSLEM WOMAN HE HAD MET AT HIS FIRST POST IN TUNIS AND THEY AWAIT A CHILD IN AUGUST. HIS EFFORTS TO DELAY HIS TRANSFER UNTIL AFTER THE BIRTH WERE UNSUCCESSFUL BUT HIS WIFE WILL REMAIN IN BRUSSELS UNTIL THE BABY CAN TRAVEL.

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PAGE 02 USNATO 05287 242010Z

3. GEVERS' MAIN DUTIES IN THE DUTCH DELEGATION TO NATO WERE AS DUTCH REP TO THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE (ECONADS) AND AS DELEGATION OFFICER DEALING WITH THE ENVIRONMENTALLY-ORIENTED COMMITTEE ON THE CHALLENGES OF MODERN SOCIETY (CCMS). HIS INVOLVEMENT WITH THE LATTER WAS PERFUNCTORY, BUT, IN KEEPING WITH HIS ECONOMIC STUDIES AT LEIDEN

UNIVERSITY (FROM WHICH HE RECEIVED A MASTERS OF LAW DEGREE) HE TOOK AN ACTIVE, SOMETIMES CRITICAL ROLE IN THE ECONADS. SOME OF HIS COLLEAGUES THERE FOUND TRYING HIS TENACIOUS ATTENTION TO DETAIL OR TO POINTS THAT PERSONALLY INTERESTED HIM, BUT WE FOUND HIM COOPERATIVE AND HELPFUL WHEN WE APPROACHED HIM BILATERALLY. HE IS WELL DISPOSED TO THE UNITED STATES.

4. GEVERS' FRENCH AND ENGLISH ARE FLUENT, AND WE ARE TOLD HE SPEAKS AND READS ARABIC, PROBABLY AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN HIS NEW ASSIGNMENT. ACCORDING TO THE DUTCH MFA BIOGRAPHIC REGISTER GEVERS WAS BORN IN MARCH 1945, ATTENDED SECONDARY SCHOOL IN ARNHEM, AND WORKED FOR SHELL 1972-74 BEFORE ENTERING THE FOREIGN SERVICE AS A CANDIDATE FSO IN APRIL 1975.

5. GEVERS' REPLACEMENT IN THE NETHERLANDS DELEGATION IS JAKOB GIJSBERT DE HOOP SCHEFFER (BORN [Sensitive Information Removed Per NARA 09 DEC 2014] IN AMSTERDAM) ALSO FROM A FOREIGN SERVICE FAMILY (HIS FATHER AND NAMESAKE IS AN AMBASSADOR-AT-LARGE AND DIRECTOR OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS AT THE MINISTRY IN THE HAGUE). GEVERS AND DE HOOP SCHEFFER WERE CLASSMATES AND MEMBERS OF THE SAME STUDENT CLUB AT LEIDEN. THE LATTER JOINED THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AS A CONTRACT APPOINTEE SOMEWHAT EARLIER - DECEMBER 74 - . BUT DID NOT RECEIVE HIS CAREER CANDIDATE APPOINTMENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 USNATO 05287 242010Z

UNTIL APRIL 76. HE HAS SERVED IN ACCRA AS THIRD SECRETARY SINCE THEN.

6. WE WOULD WELCOME ANY ADDITIONAL BIO INFORMATION ADRESSESS MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE ON DE HOOP SCHEFFER. GLITMAN

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